

Message

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**From:** Bloomberg  
Environment -  
Environment & Energy  
Report  
[bloomberg@bna.com]  
**Sent:** 7/23/2018 9:46:50 AM  
**To:** Duffy, Rick  
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Turn to Board EPA-  
Interior Minibus •  
Terminally Ill Man to  
Testify in Herbicide  
Case

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## **Senate's Turn to Board EPA-Interior Minibus • Terminally Ill Man to Testify in Herbicide Case**

By [Chuck McCutcheon](#)

The Senate is expected this week to take up the spending bill for the EPA and Interior Department as part of a four-bill "minibus."

Senate action would come on the heels of the [House passage](#) of its EPA-Interior spending bill that got through without a single Democratic vote.

That's in part because the House bill now includes policy riders that roll back environmental regulations and enforcement. Those House restrictions—which would bar the EPA from enforcing Obama-era methane limits and prevent the EPA, Interior Department, and other agencies from accounting for the social costs of carbon emissions—aren't in the Senate's version.

Senate leaders are eyeing a minibuss that combines the EPA-Interior measure with what are usually separate measures covering financial services and general government, agriculture, transportation, and housing and urban development.

The House version covers a somewhat different mix of bills. [Dean Scott](#) is covering.

**TERMINALLY ILL MAN TESTIFIES:** Monsanto Co.'s marketing of Roundup as safe is the expected focus of a former school district groundskeeper's expected testimony today in his California Superior Court lawsuit alleging the widely used herbicide caused his cancer.

Terminally ill Dewayne Johnson, 46, is scheduled to testify in a San Francisco state court that the glyphosate-based herbicide caused non-Hodgkins lymphoma, which Monsanto disputes.

The testimony in the state case comes as a federal judge in a courtroom a block away allowed a trial to proceed before a jury in a series of lawsuits consolidated in San Francisco. [Joyce Cutler](#) is covering.

## OTHER STORIES WE'RE COVERING

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Rep. Carlos Curbelo (R-Fla.) listens during a news conference in Lima, Peru, in April.  
Photographer: Guillermo Gutierrez/Bloomberg via Getty Images

- Florida GOP Rep. Carlos Curbelo [rolls out](#) his carbon tax proposal—which his fellow Republicans have tried to [dampen enthusiasm for](#)—at a National Press Club event today with environmentalists and others. [Abby Smith](#) is covering.
- The Trump administration [may release](#) this week its proposals to weaken Obama administration automotive fuel economy standards. Bloomberg News and [Abby Smith](#) are monitoring.
- The Senate may act this week on the federal flood insurance program, which [lapses](#) at the end of the month. [David Schultz](#) is monitoring.
- The Energy Consumer Market Alignment Project, which seeks to align public policy with a digital energy future, holds a launch and panel

discussion today featuring Colorado GOP Sen. Cory Gardner and Mandy Gunasekara, principal deputy assistant administrator of the EPA's Office of Air and Radiation. [Abby Smith](#) is covering.

- The Environmental Law Institute [holds a forum](#) today on the impact of recent ocean management decisions on the Trump administration. [David Schultz](#) is following.
- Plastic use and pollution have exploded in Southeast Asia as people become more prosperous. But now steps are being taken to become more sustainable, [Lien Hoang](#) writes in a [story](#) published this morning.
- House Republicans are eyeing this week to release a legislative framework on infrastructure. The proposal may not get a vote this year, but would set the infrastructure agenda for Republicans in the new Congress should they retain control of the House. Bloomberg Government's [Shaun Courtney](#) is tracking.
- Billions in new spending on environmental and renewable energy projects is at stake in Massachusetts, as lawmakers negotiate two high-stakes bills in conference committees this week. One committee is considering strengthening renewable energy goals and policies in Massachusetts, especially those that should be achieved by 2030. The other panel is looking at an environmental bond bill with up to \$2 billion in project funding. [Adrienne Appel](#) is watching.

## QUOTE OF THE DAY

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"If they're going to joke around without seriousness, they can count us out."  
—Puerto Rico Gov. Ricardo Rossello, [threatening](#) to withhold testimony from a U.S. House committee if lawmakers don't apologize for a snide remark on Twitter.

## AROUND THE WEB

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- Therapy dogs [are helping employees](#) in EPA's Denver office deal with stress.
- Scientists are [seeking sustainable alternatives](#) to cement—the manufacture of Portland cement, the most common type, accounts for about 8 percent of global carbon dioxide emissions.
- A study [determines](#) nearly two dozen main questions to consider in seeking to manage environmental risks related to Europe's chemical products.

## THIS WEEK'S EVENTS

### ON THE HILL:

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- **Tuesday, 10 a.m. • Nominations/Oil Prices** • Senate energy committee meets to consider nominees for four Energy Department posts. The panel also will hold a hearing on factors that influence global oil prices.
- **Tuesday, 10 a.m. • Nomination** • Senate agriculture committee holds nomination hearing on James Hubbard to be undersecretary of agriculture for natural resources and environment.
- **Tuesday, 10 a.m. • Coal** • House Natural Resources' energy and mineral resources panel discusses innovative and alternative uses of coal.
- **Tuesday, 10:15 a.m. • Strategic Petroleum Reserve** • House Energy and Commerce energy panel talks about legislation that would authorize a pilot project to commercialize the nation's emergency oil stockpile.
- **Tuesday, 2 p.m. • Federal Lands Grazing** • House oversight committee's Interior, energy, and environment panel reviews livestock grazing on federal lands.
- **Wednesday, 9:15 a.m. • Renewable Fuel Standard** • House Energy and Commerce environment subcommittee examines renewable identification numbers under the Renewable Fuel Standard.
- **Wednesday, 2 p.m. • Puerto Rico Electricity** • House Natural Resources energy panel scrutinizes Puerto Rico Electric Power Authority's management.
- **Wednesday, 3:30 p.m. • Puerto Rico/Jones Act** • House Transportation and Infrastructure maritime transportation panel looks at the impact of the Jones Act—a law requiring vessels moving between U.S. ports to be U.S.-built and crewed by Americans—on consumer prices in Puerto Rico.

### ELSEWHERE:

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- **Monday-Thursday, All Day • Water** • National Association of Clean Water Agencies meets in Boston.
- **Tuesday, All Day • Nuclear** • The Nuclear Fuel Supply Forum, organized by the Nuclear Energy Institute, tackles policy issues related to the nuclear fuel industry.
- **Tuesday, 9 a.m. • International Energy** • Energy Information Administration releases its 2018 International Energy Outlook.

- **Tuesday, 10 a.m. • West Africa** • U.S. Energy Association [sponsors discussion](#) on investing in the West African energy sector.
- **Tuesday, 11:45 a.m. • Remote Monitoring** • Environmental Law Institute [holds luncheon](#) on drone and satellite monitoring in environment-related ways.
- **Tuesday, 12:30 p.m. • Taiwan** • Global Taiwan Institute and George Washington University's Sigur Center for Asian Studies [sponsor discussion](#) on the future of Taiwan's energy.
- **Tuesday, 12:30 p.m. • Water** • California's Water Resources Control Board [considers](#) water storage projects.
- **Wednesday, All Day • PFAS** • EPA holds [community summit](#) on Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) in Horsham, Pa.
- **Wednesday, 8:30 a.m. • Buildings and Energy** • U.S. Green Building Council National Capital Region [holds forum](#) on the energy and cost-saving opportunities afforded by building optimization and demand management technologies and strategies.
- **Thursday, 10 a.m. • Natural Gas** • U.S. Energy Association [sponsors talk](#) on NET Power's commercialization of a novel power system that produces emissions-free electricity from natural gas for the same cost as conventional power plants.
- **Thursday, 11 a.m. • Climate** • MSCI Inc. [holds webinar](#) on California's upcoming Global Climate Action Summit.
- **Thursday, 2 p.m. • China** • Wilson Center [hosts forum](#) on new innovations for green financing in urban China.

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